



28 May 2010

Dear Neighbour,

Re. Relocation of Greyheaded Flying-fox camp from Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens

The Botanic Gardens Trust has received approval from the Federal Government to relocate the flying-fox camp roosting at Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens that now reaches 22,000 at its summer peak. The proposed relocation was approved by the State Government last year.

**From the latter half of June into July, when flying-fox numbers are at their seasonal low, we will play recorded noise for 10 minutes each hour during the afternoon in the central areas of the Gardens, with some early morning noise if necessary.**

**The type and level of sound will be similar to the noise from tree cutting in the Gardens. It will have little impact on our neighbours. However, access to the centre of the Gardens in June and July may be limited.**

The relocation strategy is based on a successful Grey-headed Flying-fox relocation by the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. The approved plan is the result of a long consultation process, taking into account scientific and animal welfare considerations. It includes the most extensive research project ever undertaken on this threatened species, which will contribute to conservation work to protect them.

For months, Trust staff and volunteers have been regularly conducting evening fly-out counts from the Gardens and from the other established flying-fox camps around Sydney. These counts will continue during and after the relocation to provide information on where the flying-foxes from the Royal Botanic Gardens have relocated. Tagging and radio tracking of the flying-foxes will also provide essential information on their patterns of movement and help to manage the relocation.

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Based on noise disturbances used at the Gardens in the 1990s, it is expected that the Flying-foxes will relocate to existing camps. Other suitable habitats have been identified in National Parks in the Sydney region, but they may establish camps in new areas. The Botanic Gardens Trust is committed to further relocation of the flying-foxes if they settle in existing sites already at capacity or establish new camps at unacceptable locations.

Full details of the relocation, including FAQ, recent media releases and the complete Public Environment Report submitted to the Federal Government, can be found on our website:

**[www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au)**

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have particular concerns or require further information.

**[flyingfox.relocation@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au](mailto:flyingfox.relocation@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au)**

**Ph 02 9231 8122 from 7 June**

Yours sincerely,



Mark Savio

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Botanic Gardens Trust